

REMARKS

All of the claims, but claim 9, have been allowed subject to further updated search. Claim 9 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claim 13. Since this amendment simply simplifies the issues for appeal, it should be entered, even if it does not place the application in condition for allowance.

The amendment does place the application in condition for allowance since neither cited reference, applied against claim 13, teaches providing the preferential etching along the <111> crystallographic direction in order to detect defects. In other words, the combination of two references, neither of which teaches the claimed element, cannot render that claimed element obvious. There is nothing in either reference that suggests using that specific type of etchant. Moreover, there is nothing which suggests any reason to try to achieve a characteristic appearance of the etch material. None of the cited references suggest using the techniques described, namely, voltage contrast methods. Without these methods, it would not matter what the appearance of the etch region would be. Neither cited reference teaches such an arrangement and, therefore, cannot render the claimed invention obvious.

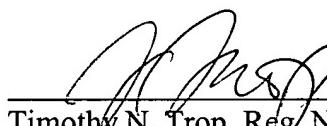
And, even if they were to teach the voltage contrast method, which they do not, they still do not provide any suggestion to create a characteristic feature in the etch material. And even if they taught creating some type of characteristic feature, which they do not, they do not teach creating that feature that results from an etchant that preferentially etches in the <111> crystallographic direction.

By amending claim 19, it is not in any way admitted that any of the other dependent claims would not have been allowable. The amendment is simply made for streamlined prosecution.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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